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November 8, 2011

President & CEO San Diego Gas & Electric
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P.O. Box 129831
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California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
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Lt Governor Gavin Newsom
State Capitol, Suite 1114
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Paul Greenwood, Esq.
San Diego County District Attorney's Office
330 West Broadway, Suite 1220
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Gentlemen:

I am writing with a matter of great concern regarding my neighbor, Patricia Manion, and I want answers as do her family members as to why SDG&E picked Mrs. Manion's home, a 91-year old neighbor of mine, for what appears to be an undocumented and unauthorized experiment by SDG&E.

I am writing on Mrs. Manion's behalf because 1) I have dealt with SDG&E on the issue of avoiding a smart meter on my home due to my own cardiac problem, and 2) I am a medical social worker/medical writer and therefore have medical knowledge and can describe to you that you made what could have been a deadly mistake by picking out Patricia Manion's home for this highly questionable installation of an unidentified meter in Whispering Palms, Rancho Santa Fe, California 92091.

I am also writing this letter and copying it to people who I know will find the following fact of

urgent and utmost importance. It has to do with comparing the readings from Mrs. Manion's meter with a cell tower outside a firestation for over 5 years -- and the insight we gained from a medical study of 6 firefighters in California who had lived with a large cell tower 9 feet from their front door for over 5 years. All of the men exposed complained of neurological symptoms following the installation of the tower that beamed over their living quarters 24/7, and all firefighters tested with SPECT brain scans and TOVA testing were found to have brain abnormalities, delayed reactions time, lack of impulse control and cognitive changes. I am very familiar with this study because I organized it, and it was conducted by Gunnar Heuser, MD, PhD.

The reason this is so important is because the cell tower outside the firestation was only a fraction of what we measured from the "unknown Itron telemetering Remote " that was attached to an existing gas meter outside Mrs. Manion's home. It would appear the level of radiation from the "unknown meter" or the combination of meters in very close proximity in the neighborhood outside Mrs. Manion's home is **10x more powerful** than that of the cell tower at the firestation.

Why is that significant? Those previously healthy firefighters -- the strongest of the strong among us -- had a lower exposure than Mrs. Manion, and still displayed measurable brain and other neurological damage upon objective testing. This is alarming information.

Here are the facts surrounding the application of an "unknown **additional** meter" for Mrs. Manion's home, her ensuing decline, and our resulting actions which I considered urgent from a medical and humanitarian point-of-view: On June 16, 2011 an unsolicited man showed up at Mrs. Manion's residence. He was in a brown van with "VSI" on the side. He spoke to a gentleman who was working at the Manion home and said he was there to install "a free upgrade for Mrs. Manion that would connect her meter directly to a satellite."

Following installation of this experimental meter, which our investigation shows was the only such "free upgrade" in a neighborhood with 400 homes, Mrs. Manion was clearly not feeling well, and her symptoms of lethargy, complaints regarding her vision, and a subtle but general lack of clarity in her speech and focus, and constant ringing in her ears did not let up. Unfortunately, her bedroom is the room closest to the smart meters. During what we believe was the first week after the installation of the mysterious meter, Mrs. Manion fell for no apparent reason. She did not trip on anything, but went down hard in the bathroom and necessitated cleaning and dressing of several cuts and abrasions. She also sustained severe bruising. The change in Mrs. Manion was perceptible and unexplained.

We obtained equipment for taking measurements of the smart meters at the side of the house. I have read and heard from SDG&E employees that your smart meters take readings hourly, or several times a day. What we discovered at the side of Mrs. Manion's house was shocking. There appeared to be burst of radiation emitted constantly. The analyzer did not have time to recover between rapid-fire bursts of radiation. Readings were far in excess of what is allowable for the total ambient surroundings of 1000 $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$. Studies show biological changes at 1/10th of 1 μW or microwatt. What were you people thinking at SDG&E to put this on a 91-year old woman's home?

We immediately made a decision this meter had to come down, and having been deceived by the unsolicited man in the "VSI" vehicle, and having been given this extraordinarily odd information about the unidentified meter "communicating with a satellite" when SDG&E never informed any of your customers satellites were part of this mesh grid, we strongly suspect Mrs. Manion's home was being used, and maybe even Mrs. Manion was being used, to test this yet unidentified meter added onto the existing meter and connected with a thick electrical cord.

If this is your meter that we have taken off the Manion home, please, by all means, claim it. We would like to know who is responsible for this 91-year old woman feeling as if, over a period of four or five weeks, that she was: 1) going blind, 2) suffering sudden onset and unrelenting lethargy and those who observed would say "confusion", 3) edema of her legs indicative of the heart slowing, 4) unexplained high blood pressure 5) unexplained collapse/fall in the home causing cuts, abrasions, severe bruising, 6) constant ringing in her ears.

Within 24 - 48 hours of this meter being removed, Mrs. Manion returned to the reasonably good health she was in for a 91-year old woman prior to June 16, 2011. This letter is being copied to Prosecutor Greenwood because we suspect Mrs. Manion's home was selected for what appears to be a horrible experiment *because* she is elderly; and by herself, indeed Mrs. Manion would never have identified the source of her sudden onset symptoms. She still has a hard time grasping how something could be toxic if it is odorless, invisible, and is provided by SDG&E, her reliable utility provider.

SDG&E is hiding behind the FCC threshold of 1000 microwatts per centimeter squared ($\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$), but that does not mean a smart meter or any wireless product is safe under 1,000 microwatts per centimeter squared, or $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$. Even at these high levels permitted by the FCC, our measurements indicate **the smart meters are not in compliance with the FCC limit.**

The utility companies are frequently known to answer questions about smart meters "safety" by assuring their consumers that the smart meter limits are "well below the FCC standard." Considering the US limit is the second highest in the world (Britain is higher), it is irrelevant if the arbitrary limit set primarily by engineers and a far-too-cozy relationship between the FCC and the telecommunications industry. The FCC standard was originally intended to prevent interference between pieces of electronic equipment. It was later modified to protect workers exposed to microwaves from heating effects (the only effects recognized at the time; we now know there can be profound biological changes at non-thermal levels). The US standard of $1000 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ was not created to protect the general public, including those most vulnerable (the unborn, children, the elderly, those with compromised immune systems). Therefore, none of us should feel reassured that the smart meter output of microwave radiation pulsing through our homes is below the FCC standard. Smart meters emit the worst kind of radiation for the body to handle -- pulsed digital RF (microwave) radiation. The cells do not have time to recover between these rapid spikes of radiation.

The FCC standard is unrealistically and I would argue recklessly high. Many countries do not permit levels anywhere near the FCC standard, (*See chart below*).

Country	Exposure level ($\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$)
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United Kingdom	1000–10,000
Canada, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, U.S.	200–1000
Australia	200
Auckland, New Zealand	50
Italy	10
China	7–10
Bulgaria, Hungary, Russia, Switzerland	2–10
Salzburg, Austria (pulsed transmissions)	0.1
New South Wales, Australia	0.001

Source: [Radio Wave Packet](#), Cellular Phone Taskforce

What the FCC standard protects you from is high thermal levels of radiation. It does not offer protection for the brain which is the first major organ adversely affected. Symptoms of cognitive impairments, balance, vision, tinnitus (ringing in the ears), lethargy, depression, and vertigo or loss of balance are all brain functions.

Because FCC standards are set for workers in the industry, and that was later "adapted" for the general public, the measurements were for heat only, and often for 6 minute exposures, not 24/7 exposure to pulsed, digital microwave radiation. The telecom industry ignores this fact—billions of dollars are at stake and no industry will voluntarily admit that its product could cause adverse health effects. But we are indeed finding adverse health effects. With great concern for Mrs. Manion and the high readings we were getting with an analyzer, I called the Office of Engineering & Technology at the FCC.

What I learned was shocking. With so many health complaints, misrepresentations of the truth, and false reassurances by utility companies, do you know how many times the FCC has gone out in the field to measure the RF from smart meters attached to most people's homes? Zero. Not once have they checked a single smart meter attached to the side of someone's home. Something is horribly wrong with the sort of experimentation and deception perpetrated by the installer of the "free upgrade" on Mrs. Manion's home that "beamed up to a satellite."

- If this meter belongs to SDG&E and was installed by a representative of SDG&E, we would like to know if this unidentified smart meter truly does communicate with a satellite?
- How does that work? What are the risks?
- Why don't you inform your customers of the possible cancer causing effect of the RF (microwave) radiation as per the World Health Organization's recent classification of RF radiation as a Group 2B "possible human carcinogen? DDT, chlordane, and diesel exhaust are in the same category.
- What testing do you have, by an independent source that is not associated with the industry that is reaping billions in profits by installing smart meters, that proves smart meters are safe? I believe you will find none.

- Shouldn't SDG&E be held criminally responsible for harm caused to anyone who becomes ill following installation of a smart meter?
- Could the experimentation on a 91-year old woman's home be considered elderabuse? After all, if Mrs. Manion had died from cardiac arrhythmia, high blood-pressure, or a fall when her balance was disturbed following installation of the meter, SDG&E could have shrugged and chalked it up to old age.
- How was Mrs. Manion's home chosen for this experiment? Who made the selection? The man who installed the meter did this to Mrs. Manion's house and no others in the neighborhood. Did SDG&E make Mrs. Manion's home the "hub" or central collections home for the entire neighborhood?

We want answer to these questions, but our concerns go way beyond what has happened to Patricia Manion. The FCC is not a health agency, the EPA had admitted that RF radiation has never been proven to be safe, and many people are suffering disabling symptoms following smart meter installations. SDG&E has been defending these meters as "safe" when not a single smart meter has been tested by the FCC in the "real world."

I therefore urge and implore an immediate moratorium on the installation of smart meters in California until the infinitely safer option of either no smart meters or smart meters using fiber optics can be deployed.

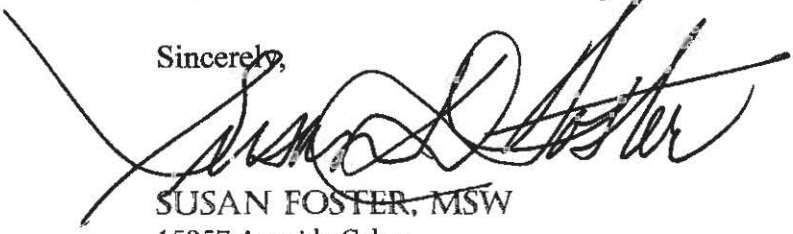
The Manion family is asking for and deserves an explanation. I am profoundly sorry this has occurred, but I am extremely glad Mrs. Manion is recovering following our removal of this meter. This case highlights two things to us. First, your meters are still in experimental stages, and second, you are experimenting on human beings -- in this case, an elderly woman living alone.

Attached please find a copy of Dr. Olle Johansson's letter to the CPUC dated July 9, 2011. Dr. Johansson is one of the world's foremost authorities on the health impacts of RF (microwave) radiation. He has profound concerns about the looming health consequences from deployment of wireless smart meters.

I again urge and implore an immediate moratorium on the installation of smart meters in California until the infinitely safer option of either no smart meters or smart meters using fiber optics can be deployed.

It is not too late to create a better system.

Sincerely,



SUSAN FOSTER, MSW
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cc:

Dr. Olle Johansson, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

Gunnar Heuser, MD, PhD

Cindy Sage, Sage Associates



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Stockholm, July 9, 2011

California Public Utilities Commission
Cc Susan Brinchman, Director, Center for Electromog Prevention, P.O. Box 655, La Mesa,
CA 91944-0655, USA

To: The California Public Utilities Commission,

I understand that you at present are concerned about the fast deployment of smart meters on homes in California, without adequate sharing of information with the public.

I work as an associate professor at the Karolinska Institute; we are world-famous for our Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, which we many times have awarded to your fellow countrymen and –women. I also uphold a professorship at the Royal Institute of Technology; it being closely tied to the Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry. For many years I have been studying health effects of wireless gadgets, such as Smart Meters.

Wireless communication is now being implemented in our daily life in a very fast way. At the same time, it is becoming more and more obvious that the exposure to electromagnetic fields may result in highly unwanted health effects. This has been demonstrated in a very large number of studies and includes cellular DNA-damage (which may lead to an initiation of cancer as well as mutations that carry down generations), disruptions and alterations of cellular functions like increases in intracellular stimulatory pathways and calcium handling, disruption of tissue structures like the blood-brain barrier (which may allow toxins to enter the brain), impact on vessel and immune functions, and loss of fertility. It should be noted that we are not the only species at jeopardy, practically all animals and plants may be at stake.

Because the effects are reproducibly observed and links to pathology can not be excluded, the precautionary principle should be in force in the implementation of this new technology within the society. Therefore, policy makers immediately should strictly control exposure by defining biologically-based maximal exposure guidelines also taking into account long-term, non-thermal effects, and including especially vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, the ill, the genetically and/or immunologically challenged, children and fetuses, and persons with the functional impairment electrohypersensitivity (which in Sweden is a fully recognized functional impairment, and therefore receives an annual governmental disability subsidy).

Prompted by all this, a group of international experts recently published a very important paper, The Seletun Scientific Statement (2011). Among its points are:

- 1) Low-intensity (non-thermal) bioeffects and adverse health effects are demonstrated at levels significantly below existing exposure standards.
- 2) ICNIRP/WHO and IEEE/FCC public safety limits are inadequate and obsolete with respect to prolonged, low-intensity exposures.
- 3) New, biologically-based public exposure standards are urgently needed to protect public health world-wide.

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4) EMR exposures should be reduced now rather than waiting for proof of harm before acting. It is not in the public interest to wait.

5) There is a need for mandatory pre-market assessments of emissions and risks before deployment of new wireless technologies. There should be convincing evidence that products do not cause health harm before marketing.

6) The use of telephone lines (land-lines) or fiber optic cables for SmartGrid type energy conservation infrastructure is recommended. Utilities should choose options that do not create new, community-wide exposures from wireless components of SmartGrid-type projects. Future health risks from prolonged or repetitive wireless exposures of SmartGrid-type systems may be avoided by using fiber-optic cable. Energy conservation is endorsed but not at the risk of exposing millions of families in their homes to a new, involuntary source of wireless radiofrequency radiation, the effect of which on their health not yet known.

Many smart meters are close to beds, kitchens, playrooms, and similar locations. These wireless systems are never off, and the exposure is not voluntary. The smart meters are being forced on citizens everywhere. Based on this, the inauguration of smart meters with grudging and involuntary exposure of millions to billions of human beings to pulsed microwave radiation should immediately be prohibited until 'the red flag' can be hauled down once and for all.

The recent determination of the World Health Organization (WHO) to include radiofrequent radiation on the 2B list of carcinogens also applies to devices such as smart meters. Already September 4, 2008, the European Parliament voted 522 to 16 to recommend tighter safety standards for cell phones (Europ. Parl. resolution on the mid-term review of the European Environment and Health Action Plan 2004-2010). In light of the growing body of scientific evidence implicating cell phone use with brain tumors, the Parliament said, "The limits on exposure to electromagnetic fields [EMFs] which have been set for the general public are obsolete." The European Parliament "was greatly concerned at the Bioinitiative international report concerning EMFs, which summarises over 1500 studies on that topic and which points in its conclusions to the health risks posed by emissions from mobile-telephony devices such as mobile telephones, UMTS, WiFi, WiMax and Bluetooth, and also DECT landline telephones, and now it is again – and more firmly and seriously - repeated in the form of WHO's recent cancer classification.

With my very best regards,
Yours sincerely,

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